• COLORADO RIVER •

AQUEDUCT NEWS

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Vol. IX APRIL 30, 1942 No. 4

New Industrial And Home Centers Now Seek Protection of Aqueduct Water Supply

With the continuing acceleration of heavy industrial operations and the rapid expansion of residential areas throughout the Coastal Plain of Southern California, the basic and imperative need for abundant, dependable water supplies for the service and protection of these vital zones becomes each day more and more evident to all.

It was the early recognition of this fundamental need on the part of the citizens of the thirteen cities comprising The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California which impelled them to assume the cost of the Colorado River Aqueduct, a herculean job successfully completed some ten months ago after twenty years of planning and construction work. It is to this great new supply system that military authorities, industrial and civic leaders are now turning to secure the additional water so urgently required to sustain this region's tremendous war production efforts and to supply the requirements of ever growing population and industrial centers.

After five years of above-normal rainfall in Southern California the communities of this territory are entering a season wherein it appears that Nature is not proposing to continue indefinitely her recent unusual generosity in the allotment of rain. As soon as these "unusual" rains taper off a bit, it becomes quite apparent that the local water sources in most developed sections have been just about able to meet the day-by-day needs of a static community. With the coming of larger and ever larger demands for water service

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Coast District To Vote On Annexation

Acting upon an application submitted by the Coastal Municipal Water District for permission to hold an election to vote upon the proposition of annexing to the Metropolitan Water District, the Board of Directors at its meeting on April 24 approved the request and at the same time set forth the terms and conditions upon which the area may be annexed.

The Coastal Municipal Water District includes the Laguna Beach County Water District, the South Coast County Water District, two irrigation districts in the Costa Mesa area, and several hundred acres of unincorporated territory south and north of Laguna Beach.

It was provided in the Board's terms of annexation that the necessary elec-

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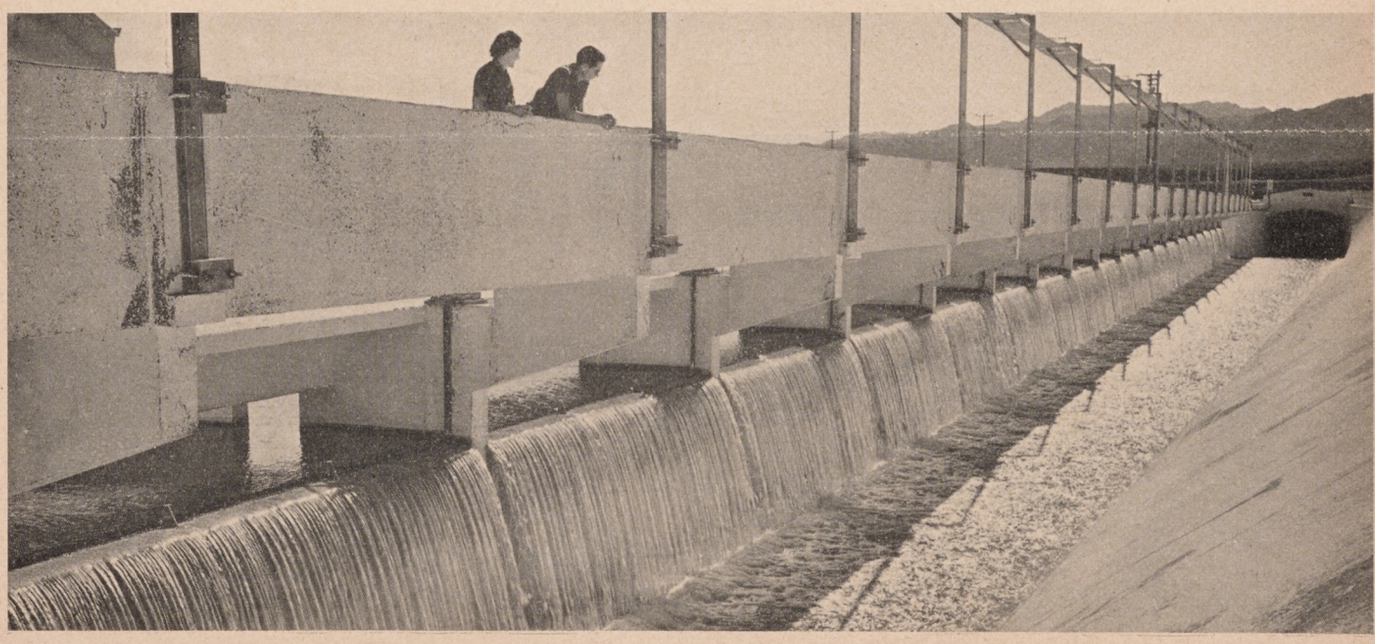

Colorado River Aqueduct water flowing out of a sand trap and into a covered conduit section (at upper right) en route to Eagle Mountain Pumping Plant. Thus wind-borne sand is collected and removed from open canal sections of the giant water carrier as it crosses flat desert spaces.

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Annexation

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tion and other qualifying proceedings must be completed by June 20. The annexation election was scheduled to be held on June 2.

While definite steps were being completed by the Laguna Beach and Costa Mesa areas to obtain a plentiful and reliable water supply through annexation to the Metropolitan Water District, a number of other Southern California areas also were looking to the Aqueduct as a source of additional water. In heavy industrial and rapidly expanding home districts located in communities and unincorporated areas outside the boundaries of the Metropolitan Water District the acute need for an ever ready and abundant supply of water has become recently more and more apparent.

The policy of the Board of Directors provides that these communities and industrial zones now outside the District may obtain connections with the Aqueduct system through annexation to the District. During the past several weeks the Board has been advised by the governing bodies of practically all of the thirteen District cities that they are opposed to the extension of Aqueduct service to outside areas except on the basis of annexation to the District. In this way, it is pointed out, the new areas receiving the benefits of either stand-by or regular water service will be in a position to pay their just share of the District's costs.

This rule, it has been pointed out by the Board, is not made to apply necessarily to United States military establishments located outside the District's boundaries but within the service range of the Aqueduct. Seeking to assist in every possible way in the war program of the nation, the District already has made Aqueduct water available to March Field, Camp Haan and to Army training centers located on the Colorado River desert in the general vicinity of the Aqueduct.

Col. Finley Retires Is Succeeded By Mr. A. H. Allen

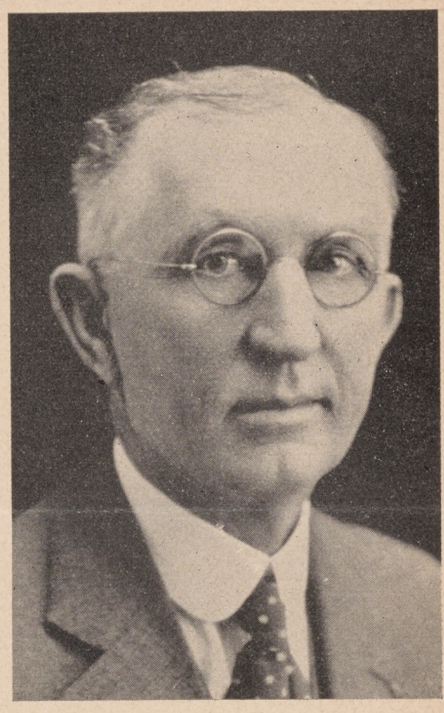
With a record of more than twenty years of courageous, tireless and unselfish public service in advancing the Boulder Dam and Colorado River Aqueduct projects from paper plans to completed works, Col. S. H. Finley on April 10 resigned as the representative of Santa Ana on the District Board of Directors.

Col. Finley's place on the Board has been filled by Mr. A. H. Allen, prominent Orange County rancher. The appointment was made by Mayor Joseph P. Smith of Santa Ana, and was unanimously confirmed by the City Council.

At the time of his resignation, Col. Finley had completed more than thirteen years of service on the District Board, having been the director for Santa Ana ever since the organization of the District on December 29, 1928.

In addition to the performance of his duties as a director, Col. Finley served as the Secretary of the Board from February 9, 1929 until the date of his resignation from that office on August 15, 1941. He first was elected Secretary by his associate directors at the time the Board permanently was organized, and thereafter six times he was unanimously reelected.

For a good many years before the District was organized in 1928, Col. Finley had been a leader among that clear-visioned group of Southern Californians who saw the need and the feasibility of the Boulder Dam and Colorado River Aqueduct projects. He was a member of the Executive Committee of the powerful Boulder Dam Association which sponsored Boulder Dam legislation in Congress, and he was Secretary of the Colorado River Aqueduct Association which advocated in the early days the organization of the Metropolitan Water District.



Col. S. H. Finley

- DIRECTORY -

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Franklin Thomas, Vice-Chairman

E. P. Hapgood, Secretary

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Los Angeles	Perry H. Greer
Los Angeles	Joseph Jensen
Los Angeles	D. W. Pontius
Los Angeles	John R. Richards
Los Angeles	Victor H. Rossetti
Los Angeles	W. P. Whitsett
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San Marino	John H. Ramboz
Santa Ana	A. H. Allen
Santa Monica	Samuel G. McClure
Torrance	Charles T. Rippy

Executive Secretary ..... A. L. Gram

OFFICERS REPORTING TO THE BOARD

General Manager and Chief Engineer	Julian Hinds
General Counsel	James H. Howard
Controller	J. M. Luney
Treasurer	Ira R. Pontius

GENERAL STAFF

Chief Electrical Engineer	J. M. Gaylord
Chief Operation and Maintenance Engineer	R. B. Diemer
Assistant to the General Manager	Don J. Kinsey
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Office Engineer	R. A. Skinner
Senior Mechanical Engineer, R. M. Peabody	
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Assistant Treasurer	C. G. Olson
Hydrographic Engineer	C. C. Elder
Purchasing Agent	E. W. Putnam

DIVISION ENGINEERS

Field Supt., Pumping Plants	T. T. Walsh
Maintenance Engineer, Aqueduct and Transmission Lines	Robt. N. Allen
Water Purification Engineer	W. W. Aultman

• MONTHLY REPORT •

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is a brief summary of some of the activities of the District as set forth in the monthly report of General Manager Julian Hinds, filed with the Board of Directors in April, 1942, covering work done in March.)

Construction

Parker Power Plant—Forces of the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation have completed setting of all roof steel and are now placing the reinforced roof slab on the power house. Assembling of the spiral steel casing of Unit No. 1 has been completed and those of Units Nos. 2 and 3 are in progress. Concrete work for the intake structure in the forebay has been finished except for placing of the trashrack struts. A new guard station has been set up at the south entrance to the camp.

Operation and Maintenance

General—Emergency guard and patrol service was continued throughout the month. The District is cooperating with the U. S. Army in its plan to establish an armored division camp near Shaver's Summit and has agreed to provide adequate storage of water for use in the camp. The Camp Haan supply line is only awaiting the completion of the filter house to start operation. Footings for the first new District tower adjacent to Boulder switchrack were poured by the contractor on the transmission lines for Basic Magnesium, Inc. This tower will replace the present District tower which is to be used for the magnesium plant north 230-kv line.

Design—Specifications were prepared for the furnishing and installing of ground wires and hardware for the 230-kv transmission line. Plans were completed for the chlorination building and chlorine cylinder handling facilities at the Eagle Rock control structure. Meetings were attended and assistance given to the Los Angeles County Defense Council subcommittee on utilities.

Parker Dam—Water surface in Lake Havasu rose to elevation 422.2 on March 1 as a result of the closing of all gates for a short period on February 27. The opening of the gates gradually lowered the elevation on the last day of the month to 437.5.

Main Aqueduct—Repair of the Gene-Camino patrol road having been completed, maintenance crews were transferred to Copper Basin Reservoir for clean-up work around the north shore where water plants have developed in shallow areas. In order to furnish fresh water to the Army at Shaver's Summit, a concrete bulkhead was installed in the lower end of the Shaver siphon.

Pumping Plants—After a period of 49 days during which no power was delivered to the Phoenix line, delivery of power to the Salt River Valley Water Users' Association was resumed.

Distribution System—At Lake Mathews routine observations and sampling of stored water continued. A telephone line was built as a protective measure from the office to the dam. Installation of the float well and equipment at station 117 for measuring low flows in the upper feeder was completed. A drop of 650 acre feet was recorded on the last day of the month in the storage of water in Lake Mathews. General operation and maintenance and laboratory work were continuous throughout the month. Locking bars or locking screws were installed at manholes and structures on the various feeder lines. The electrolysis survey along the upper feeder from the headworks to Fontana was completed. A connection to the Long Beach system at the intersection of 223rd Street and Santa Fe Avenue is being installed.

Hydrographic—Meetings of the Colorado River Board of California were attended and aid given in a study of various problems connected with interstate water rights.

Employment—One classified position was filled in March. There were recorded 34 employment contracts, 20 terminations and 135 interviews. The net turnover for all positions in February, 1942 was 3.81 per cent compared with 2.36 per cent in Feb., 1941.

Right of Way—Citrus acreage in the grove was increased 4½ acres by the planting of 622 young trees. During the month 1205 boxes of lemons were picked and a portion of the grove sprayed for aphis control. There are now in effect 3 leases, 11 rentals and 30 reverse leases. Request for cancellation of taxes was made to the County of Los Angeles following a check of tax bills on property acquired from the City of Pasadena at Morris Dam.

Purchasing and Salvage—During March there were 214 purchase orders issued, totaling approximately $8,816.00. Carload forwardings consisted of 16 cars of salt and 1 car of soda ash. Cash sales amounted to $10,593.94, bringing the salvage disbursements to date to $1,775,181,28. Salvage stock on hand at the end of the month was appraised at $491,009.55.

Aqueduct Protection

(*Continued from Page* 1)

from new industries and new homes, it suddenly becomes clear that additional and far more dependable water supplies are required. Fortunately for the life and defense of the Coastal Plain such an additional water supply now is physically available from the Colorado River Aqueduct.

The far reaching importance of Colorado River Aqueduct water being brought into this Southern California coastal territory at this particular time is plainly shown by a review of a few of the pertinent facts.

First of all, it is essential to keep in mind the fact that Southern California is naturally a semi-arid region. Except for the Owens River Aqueduct supply brought in by and for the City of Los Angeles, the development of this region was made possible by drawing on underground water reserves that had slowly been accumulating for centuries prior to the coming of the white man to these western shores.

This heavy and increasing pull on local water sources has been long continued, and yet, it must be remembered that in 1942, leaving out of consideration the Owens River Aqueduct and the Colorado River Aqueduct, there is no more dependable water supply in this coastal basin area than there was in 1900. In that year the population of the coastal basin was 236,000, in 1920 it was 1,085,000, but in 1940 it was 3,100,000, and is now estimated to be 3,200,000. Of all these people, 1,550,000 are protected by both aqueducts, 2,100,000 are secure in the protection of the Colorado River Aqueduct, and 1,100,000 are not protected at all from the effects of a protracted drought, unless they become constituent areas of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. In this last named group of cities some of the large and vitally important war industries of the basin are located.

Assessed valuations of taxable property in the thirteen District cities for the fiscal year of 1941-42 are $1,900,599,934 and for the entire basin approximately $3,000,000,000. Likewise, manufacturing has expanded from a basin total in 1919 of $440,800,000 to $1,500,000,000 in 1941. In 1942 these values are expected to reach $2,000,000,000.

Agriculture also has been developing steadily with the growth of population, resulting in more than doubling the acreage subject to irrigation.

NEWS FROM FIELD AND OFFICE

Since April, 1933, when he entered the service of the M. W. D., Rufus Seldon Fee has been piloting and guiding official automobile parties out along the far stretches of the Aqueduct. During most of this time he has been the driver of the Board car. He knows just about every inch of the water line, and can always be trusted to deliver his passengers to a camp mess hall by meal time. Recently he was named Field Secretary by order of the Board of Directors.

On the evening of April 11, the second monthly party of employees of the Softening and Filtration Plant was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Streicher in Monrovia, with ten of the men and their wives attending. The first such affair was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Remy in La Verne in March.

Miss Miriam Taylor, who since February, 1936 has been Secretary to Controller J. M. Luney, has been made Assistant Controller of the District. She first entered the employ of the District in May, 1930, when she took over clerical and secretarial duties in the office of the Executive Secretary of the Board. Later she transferred to the office of the Controller, and during recent years she has been chief assistant in that department.

With the view of having his services available in the work connected with the interrelations of the Accounting Division and offices of the Controller and the Treasurer, C. G. Olson, who has been Assistant Treasurer for the past three years, is transferring in May to the post of Accountant in the office of Chief Accountant A. W. McKinlay.

Ray W. Bruce, who was an attorney in the District's Legal Division for a period of ten years prior to his resignation in August, 1941, has announced that on May 1 he is opening offices for the general practice of law in the Fidelity Building, 548 South Spring Street, Los Angeles. He will occupy a suite with attorneys John Mathews and W. H. Wadsworth, and in the same location once occupied by the law firm of the late W. B. Mathews, the first General Counsel of the District.

Miss Hortense Miller, who on May 1 becomes Assistant Treasurer of the District. She is taking over her new and responsible duties in the office of Treasurer Ira R. Pontius after almost nine years of employment with the Aqueduct organization.

Viola Crutcher, who has been with the District organization since 1930 as Stenographer and General Clerk in the Accounting Division, early in May is to take over the stenographic and secretarial duties involved in the operation of the Personnel-Information office in the Los Angeles headquarters. At the same time Miss Nadene Harvey is transferring from the Treasurer's office to stenographic and clerical duties in the Accounting Division.

A glimpse of an Aqueduct road on the California shoreline of Lake Havasu between Parker Dam and Intake Pumping Plant.